



SP 154

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Alastair W. Hunter, et al.
Serial No.: 838,511 ✓ Art Unit: 1504
Filed : February 19, 1992 ✓ Examiner: C. Raimund
For : STERILIZED HETEROGENEOUS BRAIDS

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GROUP 1500

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please reconsider the above-identified application in view of the following remarks. These remarks are subdivided into a discussion of the claimed invention, and an analysis of the rejection, to facilitate an understanding of the significant differences between the cited art and the claimed invention.

Discussion of the Invention

A proper understanding of the invention is critical for appreciating the dissimilarities between the invention and the teachings of the cited references.

In a broad sense, the invention is a braided suture which contains dissimilar filaments of first and second fiber-forming materials. However, the proper characterization of the claimed suture goes far beyond this simple description.